

Remarks

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-12 and 22 have been amended. All the amendments to the claims are supported by the specification as originally filed. Claims 13-19 have been cancelled as being directed to non-elected subject matter; claims 1-12 and 20-22 are presently pending. All cancelled subject matter has been canceled without prejudice to its assertion in a continuing application.

Rejections Based on 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

WO 01/83461 A1 and WO 2002028844 (US equivalent No. 6,949,566) were cited by the Office as allegedly anticipating the claims. In response, Claims 1-2, 4, 6-8, and 11-12 have been amended by removing "H" from the definition of the variable Q. In light of these amendments, Applicants submit that the rejection is moot, and they request that it be withdrawn.

Objections:

Claims 1, 11, and 12 have been amended to remove "naphthyl" from the definition of the A ring.

The claims 1-4, 6-8, and 10-12 have been amended to be drawn to elected subject matter wherein L is -SO₂NH- or SO₂N(C₁-C₆)alkyl; and Z is phenyl.

Claim 22 has been amended to correct punctuation with the addition of a semicolon.

After amendment, all dependent claims properly depend upon valid claims.

CONCLUSION

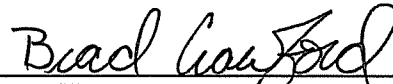
Applicants respectfully submit that all requirements of patentability have been met. Allowance of the claims and passage of the case to issue are therefore respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe a discussion of this matter would be helpful, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at (312) 913-2114.

Respectfully submitted,

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